AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-2.   (Canceled)

3.   (Currently amended) A method utilizing a graphical user interface in a computer system coupled with an input device, comprising the steps of:

    executing an application program with a graphical user interface comprising a
        plurality of elements, each element being associated with a set of commands
        comprising a core region selectable by a user to invoke one or more
        commands associated with the element and an edge region surrounding at
        least a portion of the core region;
    signaling a user command with the input device;
    moving one or more elements in response to the signal; and
    changing the graphical representation of one or more of the elements by joining two
        or more elements to form a group of elements when the two or more of the
        elements are positioned so that their edge regions overlap, the formed group
        of elements indicating the core regions for each element of the group and a
        combined edge region disposed within close proximity of each other.

4-5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 [[5]], further comprising:
    receiving a user input to move an element in a group of joined elements; and
    separating the moved element from the group when the edge region of the moved
        separated element is moved out of proximity from does not overlap with any
        of the edge regions of the remaining elements of the group of joined elements.

7.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 [[5]], further comprising:
    receiving a user input to move a group of joined elements; and

repositioning the group of joined elements within the user interface according to the user input, preserving the spatial relationship among the joined elements.

8.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein each element has a color, and changing the graphical representation of two or more elements of different color comprises forming an overlapping region between the two or more elements, the color of the overlapping region derived from the colors of each of the two or more elements.

9.   (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for adjusting a graphical user interface of a computer program, the method comprising:

   displaying a plurality of elements, each element associated with at least one function
      of the computer program and comprising:
         a functional core region that is selectable using an input device to invoke
            the function(s) associated with the element,
         a dynamic edge that changes shape when the element is merged with one
            or more other elements, the dynamic edge forming a continuous
            dynamic edge with the dynamic edge(s) of the other element(s)
            merged therewith;
   receiving an indication from the input device user inputs to move one or more
      elements within the graphical user interface; and
   in response to receiving an indication to move a user input, moving a first element to
      a position so that the dynamic edge of the first element overlaps the dynamic
      edge of overlapping a second element, and merging the first and second
      elements to form a group, the group indicating the functional core regions of
      the first and second elements.

10.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
   receiving a user input to move the group of the first and second elements within the
         user interface; and

in response to a reception of the user input to move the group, repositioning the group
of elements within the user interface while preserving the spatial relationship
among the merged elements of the group.

11.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
in response to a reception of a user input, moving a third element to a position
overlapping the group of first and second elements and merging the third
element with the first and second elements to form a new group.

12.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
responding to a user input by moving the third element to a position not overlapping
the first and second elements and removing the third element from the group
of merged elements to reform the group.

13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein each element has at least
one color, and each group of merged elements includes an overlapping region between the
elements, the color of the overlapping region derived from the colors of each of the elements that
form the overlapping region.

15.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the first and second
elements are of a different color, the method further comprising:
a step for fusing the colors of the first and second elements in an overlapping region
therebetween.

16.   (Currently amended) A computer program product for adjusting a graphical user interface of a computer program, the computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium containing computer program code for performing the method comprising operations:

displaying a plurality of elements, each element associated with at least one function of the computer program and comprising:

a functional core region that is selectable using an input device to invoke the function(s) associated with the element,

a dynamic edge that changes shape when the element is merged with one or more other elements, the dynamic edge forming a continuous dynamic edge with the dynamic edge(s) of the other element(s) merged therewith;

receiving an indication from the input device user inputs to move one or more elements within the graphical user interface; and

in response to receiving an indication to move a user input, moving a first element to a position so that the dynamic edge of the first element overlaps the dynamic edge of overlapping a second element, and merging the first and second elements to form a group, the group indicating the functional core regions of the first and second elements.

17.   (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 16, further comprising:

receiving a user input to move the group of the first and second elements within the user interface; and

in response to a reception of a user input to move the group, repositioning the group of elements within the user interface while preserving the spatial relationship among the merged elements of the group.

18.   (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 16, the computer program code further for performing the operations:

in response to a reception of a user input to move a third element to a position overlapping the group of first and second elements, merging the third element with the first and second elements to reform the group.

19.   (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 18, the computer program code further for performing the operations:

in response to a reception of a user input to move the third element to a position not overlapping the first and second elements, removing the third element from the group of merged elements to reform the group.

20.   (Canceled)

21.   (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein each element has at least one color, and each group of merged elements includes an overlapping region between the elements, the color of the overlapping region derived from the colors of each of the elements that form the overlapping region.

22.   (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the computer program product is a media rendering software application.